

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 00202 100749Z

15

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 OMB-01 AID-20 DRC-01 /114 W

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R 100703Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1965

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 202

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT KS

SUBJ: ROK MEDIA AND EMERGENCY MEASURES

1. A SENIOR ROK NEWS AGENCY OFFICER GAVE POLCOUNS FOLLOWING BACKGROUND ON STATUS OF ROK MEDIA UNDER EMERGENCY MEASURES.

2. NEWSMEN INDICATED THAT GOVERNMENT HAS NOT ISSUED DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS OR GUIDLINES BUT MEDIA "FULLY AWARE" OF WHAT EMERGENCY MEASURES MEAN FOR THEM. FOR ALL PRACTICAL PURPOSES, HE SIAD SITUATION IS ANALOGOUS TO MARTIAL LAW AS FAR AS PRESS IS CONCERNED. STATED

THAT THIS POINT WAS BROUGHT HOME BY PRESIDENT PRESS SECRETARY KIM SONG-CHIN WHO GAVE OFF-THE-RECORD INTERPRETATION OF EMERGENCY MEASURES TO BLUE HOUSE NEWSMEN IMMEDIATELY AFTER JAN 8 ANNOUNCEMENT. KIM TOLD PRESS THAT ROKG CONSIDERS EMERGENCY MEASURES THE SAME THING AS MARTIAL LAW AND WARNED THEM THAT GOVERNMENT WILL NOT HESITATE TO CLOSE DOWN A NEWS-PAPER OR A UNIVERSITY IF CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRE IT.

3. NEWS AGENCY OFFICIAL SAID THAT SO FAR AT LEAST,
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MINISTRY OF INFORMATION,NOT ROK/CIA, REMAINS

CHARGED WITH DIRECT PRESS CONTROL. MINISTRY HAS GIVEN EXPLICIT ORDER THAT NO NEWSPAPER IS TO REPORT ANY ARRESTS OR INTERROGATIONS EXCEPT ON THE BASIS OF OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT RELEASE.

4. NEWS AGENCY OFFICIAL SAID THAT IN FACT TWO STREET VENDORS HANDLING NDP PARTY PAPER HAD BEEN PICKED UP JAN 9 BY POLICE AND PRESS HAS BEEN TOLD NOT TO PRINT THAT. HE SAID THERE IS NO INFORMATION AS TO WHY THE TWO WERE PICKED UP OR AS TO WHETHER THEY HAD BEEN RELEASED OR NOT. IN ANOTHER INCIDENT, HE SAID THAT A TONGO BROADCASTING OFFICIAL HAD BEEN BROUGHT TO THE POLICE STATION IN THE EARLY HOURS OF JAN 9 AND THEN RETURNED HOME. POLICE LATER INSISTED HE HAD MERELY BEEN REQUESTED TO COME IN FOR DISCUSSION ABOUT NEED FOR COOPERATION IN PRESENT SITUATION.

5. NEWSMAN SAID ALSO THAT IN CONTRAST TO PAST, WORD IS THAT RESIDENT FOREIGN WIRE SERVICE CORRESPONDENTS AS WELL AS VISITING NEWSMEN WILL BE BROUGHT UNDER EMERGENCY MEASURES (ACTING PAO IS CHECKING THIS POINT WITH MCUI).
ERICSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, MARTIAL LAW, CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS, EMERGENCY PLANNING, NEWSPAPERS, ARRESTS, JOURNALISTS, RADIO BROADCASTING
Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 10 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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30 JUN 2005

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TAGS: PINT, KS
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